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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND
TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit: 2665
Examiner: Michael J. Molinari

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Technology Center 2600

In Re: John K. Renwick et al.
Case: IBN-0014
Serial No.: 09/405,237
Filed: September 23, 1999
Subject: Apparatus and Method for Forwarding Data on Multiple Label-Switched
Data Paths

To the Commissioner of Patent and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Response A

In the claims:

All of the claims standing for Examination in the above-referenced case are reproduced below. Claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 12, 16, 17, 20, 22, 23, 25, and 26 are herein amended in the present response, claims 2, 7, 18, 19, 21, 24, 29 and 30 are herein cancelled.

Sub
C1
A1

1. (Amended) A method of forwarding packets of data over a network from a source node to a destination node, comprising:

providing a subnetwork within the network having a plurality of subnetwork nodes connected by a plurality of subnetwork links, the subnetwork nodes including an ingress node and an egress node coupled to the source node and the destination node, respectively, at least one pair of subnetwork nodes being connected by a plurality of subnetwork links, the plurality of subnetwork nodes and the plurality of subnetwork links defining a plurality of subnetwork paths between the ingress node and the egress node;

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02 FC:2251

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252.00 0P

01 FC:2201